

Document Citation

Title	In der Fremde
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Variety</i>
Date	1975 Jul 16
Type	review
Language	English
Pagination	20
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	Shahid-Saless, Sohrab (1944), Tehran, Iran
Film Subjects	In der fremde (Alien), Shahid-Saless, Sohrab, 1975

Reviews From

In Der Fremde

(Alien)

W. GERMAN-IRANIAN-
COLOR)

Variety 7-16-75

Berlin, July 4.

Unset release of a Provobis Film (Hamburg) — New Film Group (Teheran) coproduction. Directed by Sohrab Shahid-Saless. Screenplay, Saless, Helga Houzer; camera (color) Rahin Reza Molai. Reviewed at Berlin Film Festival (competitive) July 3, '75. Running time: 91 MINS.

Husseyin Parviz Sayyad
Student Anasal Chihan
Kasim Muhammet Temizkan
Osman Husamettin Kaya

Though running in Berlin officially as an Iranian entry, pic was actually lensed in this city as a German-Iranian copro by Sohrab Shahid-Saless, the young Iranian director who had the unusual distinction of having two features ("A Simple Event" and "Still Life") in the 1974 local race, both of them eventual prizewinners. Perhaps inevitably disappointing after Shahid-Saless' very impressive first pix, item is nevertheless first-rate filmmaking in author's dry, underplayed, poetic style. Once again, it's highly special fare and not for the general consumer.

This time, Saless leaves his Mid-East homeland to depict the plight of foreign (in this case Turkish) workers in Germany, many of whom suffer through hard work and desperate loneliness in order to make that bundle with which to start a modest new life back home. In almost documentary fashion, he chronicles the uneventful life on one particular worker, and his frustrations in trying to break out of his physical and lingual ghetto existence.

Tempo is deliberately slow and the director's repetitions a mirror of a life of unchanging routine and restriction. Saless never preaches or overstates his case (typically, when a subway drunk cries out his hate for all foreigners at the protagonist, the scene is cut off before an argument ensues) but his points are made, nevertheless, and bitterly so.

Pic is technically excellent, and the real-life thesps director has found fit their submissive roles to perfection. *Hawk*